WHEREAS, The MS READ-a-thon program of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society has provided realistic incentives for over one million school children in this state and throughout the country to focus their attention on reading as an enjoyable and rewarding activity; and,

WHEREAS, The MS READ-a-thon program has been successfully conducted nationwide by the society and found to be a valuable and easily integrated educational tool which motivates its young participants to achieve at a higher level; and,

WHEREAS, The MS READ-a-thon program offers outstanding advantages to the children who participate and to their families, as well as to school and library systems, and virtually all segments of the local community; and,

WHEREAS, Through the MS READ-a-thon, the general public has been made more aware that multiple sclerosis--the "mysterious crippler of young adults"--is a major health problem which afflicts hundreds of thousands of Americans, usually between the ages of twenty and forty; and,

WHEREAS, The program has heightened public recognition of the efforts of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society and its chapters to find the cause, prevention and cure of MS and to offer hope to patients everywhere through patient services and intensified medical research:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD F. KNEIP, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim Thursday, September 8, 1977, as

MS READ-A-THON DAY

in South Dakota, as a signal event in the Society's MS Education Month Campaign, annually conducted in the month of September, and do recommend that all school children between the ages of six and fourteen participate in the MS READ-a-thon program of "reading for the need of others," and thus help--with community support--to ease the suffering of those who have multiple sclerosis. It is also gratifying to note that this date, September 8, coincides most appropriately with the United States observance of International Literacy Day.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the great seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this 27th day of July, in the Year of Our Lord, Nineteen Hundred and Seventy-Seven.

RICHARD F. KNEIP, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

LORNA B. HERSETH, SECRETARY OF STATE

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA - BUREAU OF ADMINISTRATION - OFFICE OF RECORDS MANAGEMENT - CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICITY
THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE MICROPHOTOGRAPHIC IMAGE APPEARING ON THIS SLIDE OF MICROFILM IS AN ACCURATE REPRODUCTION OF THE ORIGINAL RECORD AND WAS MICROFILMED IN THE REGULAR COURSE OF BUSINESS ACCORDING TO THE PROVISIONS OF SOUTH DAKOTA LAW 1-27-4. IT IS FURTHER CERTIFIED THAT THE PHOTOGRAPHIC PROCESS USED FOR MICROFILMING OF THE ABOVE RECORDS WAS IN AND ON MICROFILM WHICH MEET THE RECOMMENDED REQUIREMENTS OF THE NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS FOR PERMANENT MICROPHOTOGRAPHIC REPRODUCTIONS.
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